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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Koichi SATO

Appl No : 09/617,100

Filed : July 14, 2000

For : WHITE BALANCE CONTROL AMOUNT CALCULATING DEVICE



Group Art Unit: 2712

Examiner:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby calls the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

U.S. Patent No. 6,094,539 to ABE, entitled "White Balance Adjusting Device", which issued on July 25, 2000;

U.S. Patent No. 5,983,038 to SATO et al., entitled "White Balance Adjusting Device", which issued on November 9, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,929,899 to TAKAHASHI et al., entitled "Electronic Endoscope Which Stores Image Signals of the Three Primary Colors Supplied in a Field-Sequential System Into a Single Memory Using a Point-Sequential System", which issued on July 27, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,864,361 to SEKIYA et al., entitled "Video Endoscope System With Color Tone Correction", which issued on January 26, 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,550,587 to MIYADERA, entitled "White Balance Adjustment Device"

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For a Still-Video Camera Having an Electronic Flash”, which issued on August 27, 1996; and

U.S. Patent No. 4,951,134 to NAKASIMA et al., entitled “Color Tone Controller For Endoscope”, which issued on August 21, 1990.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicant also brings to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/050,868 to SATO, entitled “Image Correction Information Recording Device”, which was filed on March 31, 1998; and

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/052,063 to SATO, entitled “Image Signal Correction Device”, which was filed on March 31, 1998.

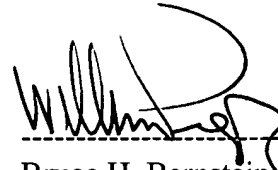
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-mentioned applications are not attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to review the file wrappers of these U.S. patent applications at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Of course, if for any reason the Examiner cannot locate any of the applications, Applicant will provide any requested materials, if possible.

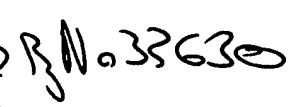
Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the

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undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Koichi SATO



Bruce H. Bernstein
Reg. No. 29,027 

October 16, 2000
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